

Fairfax Town Council Minutes
Special Meeting
Fairfax Women's Club
Wednesday, **August 26, 2015**

Call to Order/Roll Call:

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Coler
Renee Goddard
Peter Lacques
John Reed
David Weinssoff

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Garrett Toy, Town Manager
Michele Gardner, Town Clerk
Jim Moore, Director, Planning and Building
Mark Lockaby, Building Official
Janet Coleson, Town Attorney

Mayor Coler called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Agenda and Affidavit of Posting

M/S, Weinssoff/Goddard, Motion to approve the agenda and the affidavit of posting.
AYES: Goddard, Lacques, Reed, Weinssoff, Mayor Coler

Public Hearing

Introduction and First Reading by title only of an Ordinance to Streamline Review and Approval of Small Residential Rooftop Solar Energy Systems, as required by AB 2188

Planning Director Moore presented a staff report. This item was continued from the August 5th regular meeting so that staff could make changes as directed by Council. He stated that the Council had the option to comply with AB 2188 by adopting two separate ordinances, with one applying to small systems and the other applying to large systems. To meet the state deadline and address concerns raised, the Council could introduce an ordinance focusing on small systems only at the next regular meeting, and adopt it at the October 7th regular meeting, with a resolution to adopt the specific checklist and plans. Meanwhile, the Planning Commission could consider an ordinance addressing large systems, including whether to incorporate the mandatory checklist by resolution.

Mayor Coler opened the Public Hearing.

Mimi Newton, speaking as a Fairfax resident, (and not as a Planning Commissioner), referred to the comments she had submitted to the Council in her letter to the dated 8/25/15. She supported adopting an ordinance that applied only to small residential systems.

Bruce Ackerman, speaking as a Fairfax resident, (and not as a Planning Commissioner), stated when he obtained permits for the solar installation at his property the process presented no problems, and that the ordinance probably would not make a difference in Fairfax.

Mayor Coler closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Lacques stated that he was comfortable adopting the ordinance as drafted, and was not in agreement with bifurcating the ordinance. He did not see value in sending back to the Planning Commission a separate ordinance addressing large systems. He believed it was important to lay out the mandatory language regarding the checklist in the ordinance for the benefit of applicants seeking permits.

M/S Weinsoff/Goddard, Motion to continue the item and direct staff to come back with an ordinance that addresses only the small residential rooftop solar energy systems for first reading at the next regular meeting.

AYES: Coler, Goddard, Reed, Weinsoff
NOES: Lacques
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Coler adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Gardner, Town Clerk